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# Illustrated Topographical Record of London.

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*SECOND SERIES.*

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*Issued by the Organizing Committee of the London Topographical Society.*

1899.



ILLUSTRATED  
TOPOGRAPHICAL RECORD  
OF LONDON.



ILLUSTRATED

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TOPOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF LONDON.

**SECOND SERIES.**

*Changes and Demolitions, 1886-1887.*

**London Topographical Society:**

16, CLIFFORD'S INN, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

—  
1899.

**HERTFORD :**  
**PRINTED BY STEPHEN AUSTIN AND SONS.**

## P R E F A C E .

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THESE illustrations are from drawings made by Mr. Emslie for the old Society, under the direction of Mr. Henry B. Wheatley, F.S.A. The Organizing Committee of the London Topographical Society have had the drawings engraved, and are responsible for the issue of the book as one of the publications of the Society for 1898.

The Society is especially indebted to two members of the Committee for the Notes which accompany the illustrations. Mr. Emslie has furnished descriptions of what he saw at the time of making his drawings, and Mr. Philip Norman, F.S.A., has very generously supplied the additional historical notes. The respective contributions are distinguished by their initials—J. P. E. (Mr. Emslie) and P. N. (Mr. Philip Norman).

Signed on behalf of the Organizing Committee,

T. FAIRMAN ORDISH.



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I.

CITY OF LONDON COURT, ETC.

THE roadway in the front is that of Basinghall Street. The City of London Court was pulled down in 1887, and the site occupied by the present more commodious Tudor Gothic structure. On the right is a bar, which is drawn across the road on the occasion of any Civic function in Guildhall Yard, which is seen beyond this bar, and, on the farther side of the Yard, is the Church of St. Lawrence Jewry.—J. P. E.

This block of offices, as far as the house at the further corner which serves as the headquarters of the Irish Society, was taken down in 1887, the first stone of the present City of London Court on the same site having been laid on November 23 of that year. Our view is from the corner of Basinghall Street, looking west. The Church of St. Lawrence Jewry, partly shown, was built by Sir Christopher Wren, on the site of the ancient church destroyed in the Great Fire. On Michaelmas Day the Lord Mayor and Corporation here attend divine service prior to the election of the Chief Magistrate of the City for the ensuing year.—P. N.



I.—CITY OF LONDON COURT, LAND TAX ROOMS, AND CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY.

A

## II.

### FORE STREET, CRIPPLEGATE.

THE view shows part of the North side of Fore Street. On the right is the corner of Milton Street, and the old timber houses which stood at the corner, which is outside this view, are shown in Pl. IV of our first series. The windows of three houses on the right, as well as the wooden cornice above them, have, through age, deflected very much from their original horizontality: in the lofty gable roofs above them some dormers with feather-edge boards are so large as almost to form an attic story. Beyond them are some houses with square bays which, though similar in design, are quaintly unequal in size, and have a picturesque appearance. Beyond these are some plain-fronted houses which, though newer than their fellows, are old. There were some fine tiled gable roofs in this part of the street, but their effect was much marred by the fronts of the houses having been carried up above their eaves. At the end of the street is seen the well-known tower of St. Giles's Church, Cripplegate.—J. P. E.

Since the date of our illustration almost all the houses here shown have been swept away. A group of picturesque wooden-fronted shops still remains at the entrance to St. Giles's Churchyard. They seem coeval with the adjoining gateway, which has on it the date 1660. James Foe, the father of Daniel Defoe, was a butcher in Fore Street.—P. N.



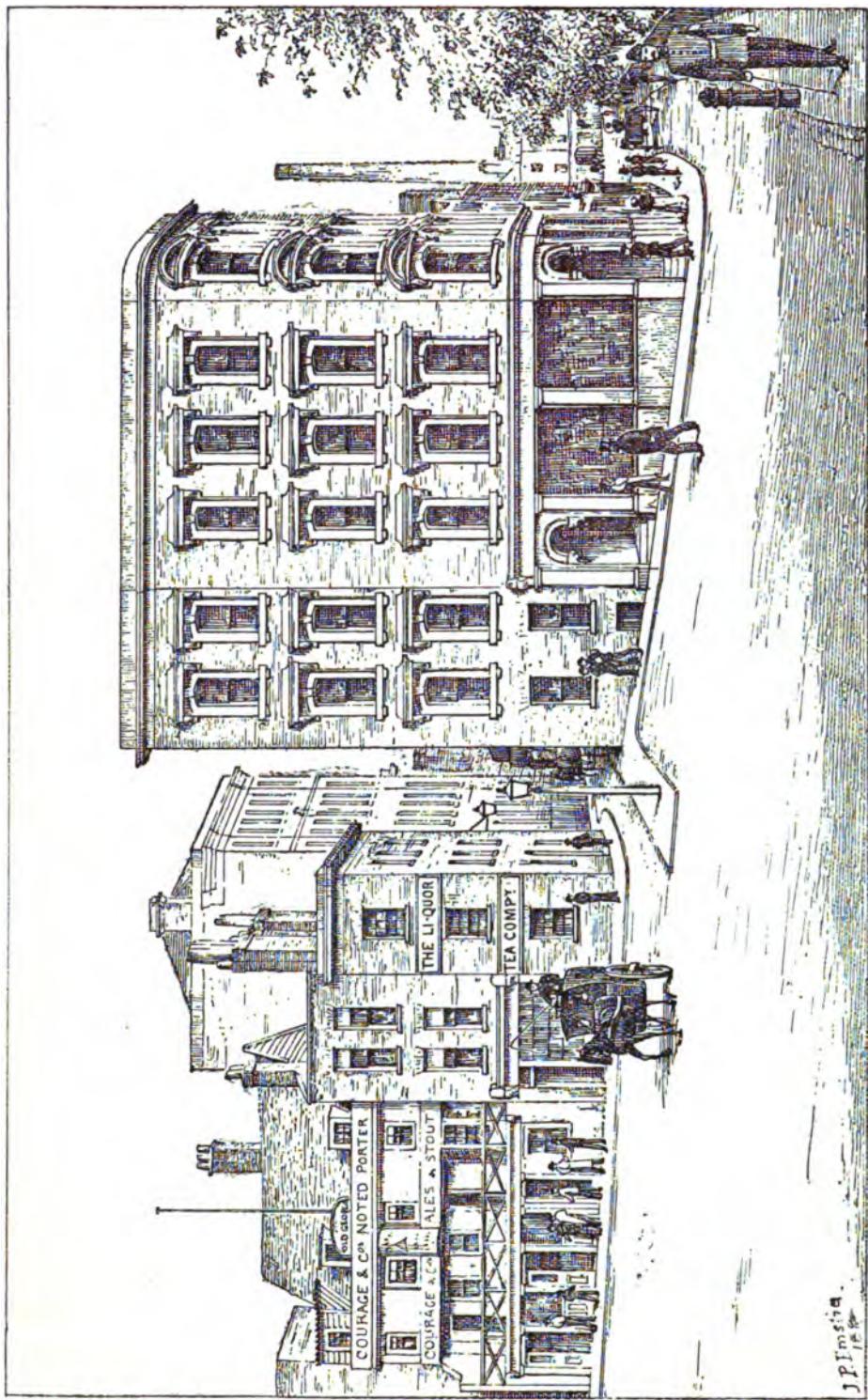
II.—FORE STREET, CRIPPLEGATE.

### III.

#### POSTERN Row, TOWER HILL.

THE most noticeable feature of antiquity in this view is the "Old George" Inn, with its tall gable roof and its dormer windows, its overhanging upper stories, and bay window on first floor: the lowest story is hidden by an addition to the house (used as a bar) which, projecting considerably in front of the house in order that its roof should form a balcony, its wooden handrail with diagonal braces gives a certain air of picturesqueness to what would otherwise be a disfigurement. At the back of this house ran the Roman Wall, a portion of which could be seen in a yard hard by. In a warehouse in this yard was another and larger portion of the same wall with mediæval additions; this was brought into view in 1864 by the pulling down of the warehouse. Both these remains have long disappeared. The entrance to Postern Row appears on the right of the "Old George." Postern Row was a short, narrow, and winding lane; its houses were, for the most part, of the Queen Anne period, and the small cellar-like area in one of its basement windows had walls which were covered with old Dutch tiles. The most prominent building in the view is a thoroughly modern one, but the block of which it is a part has long disappeared. The new and wider roadway obtained by the demolition of this block has been made in two sections—one on the level of Postern Row, the other on the lower level which is shown in the view. The railings on the right are on the edge of the Tower Ditch, and in the distance is seen the eastern side of Tower Hill.—J. P. E.

The "Old George" Inn, on the east side of Trinity Square, was a picturesque building. The gallery along the front had doubtless been filled to overflowing many a time in the old days, when citizens made holiday to witness the ghastly scenes at the scaffold on Tower Hill. A water-colour drawing of the earlier part of this century shows the house with trees in front and a drinking-trough. The inn was destroyed by fire a few years ago.—P. N.



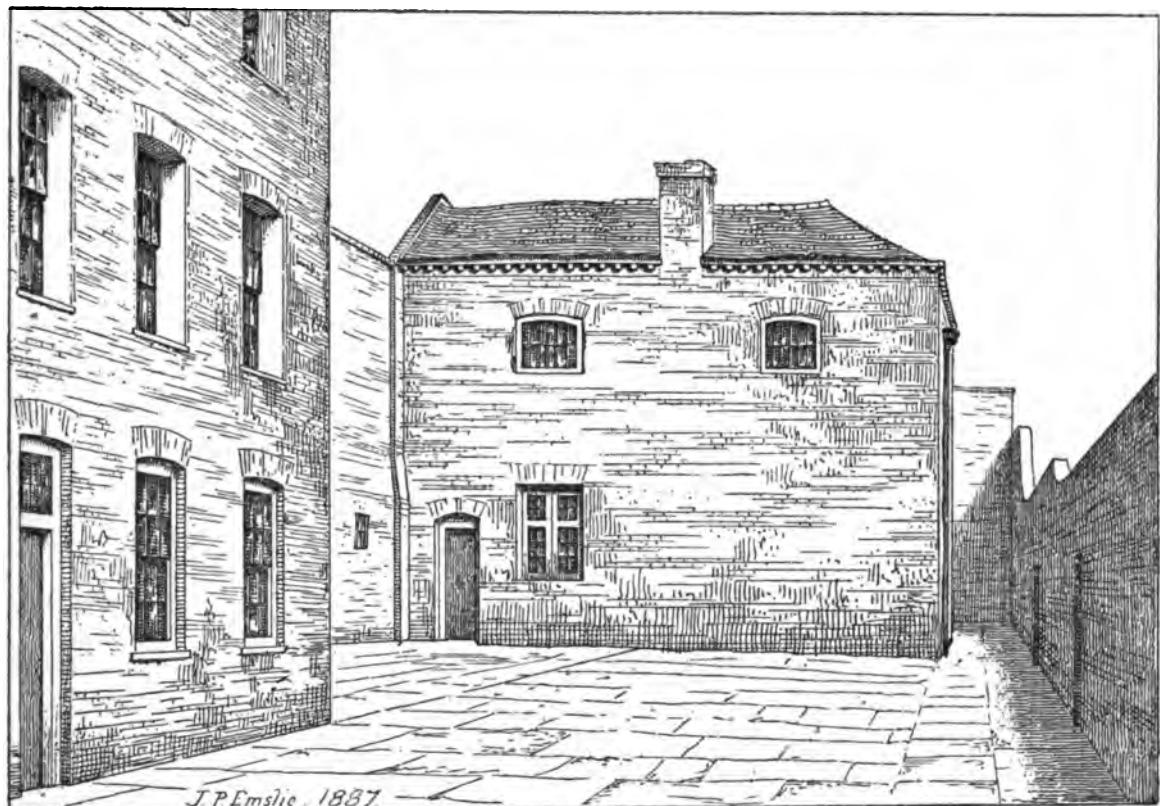
III.—POSTERN ROW, TOWER HILL.

## IV.

### MARSHALSEA PRISON, SOUTHWARK.

THIS was a very plain, architecturally poor, brown-brick building, and I have drawn the only part of it which had the least pretension to picturesqueness. The drooping of age has given some quaintness to the red-tiled roof, and some variety is caused by the beam with its plain square brackets beneath the roof. On the right of the view is the south wall of the prison: at the end of this wall is seen a portion of the Chapel, in front of which is a yard at the back of the building in centre of the view. When I made the drawing in 1887, the prison had become a common lodging-house, and the janitor informed me that it had been formerly known, not only as the Marshalsea Prison, but also as the Admiralty Prison, because captured pirates used to be confined in it.—J. P. E.

The Marshalsea was a prison in High Street, Southwark, so called "as pertaining to the Marshals of England." It was of ancient foundation, the original site having been in the same street further north. The later Marshalsea, near St. George's Church, was built in 1811 on the site of what had been the White Lion Prison. In Charles Dickens's youthful days his father was imprisoned there for debt, and the place is intimately connected with the story of Little Dorrit. In 1842 the prisoners were removed to the Queen's Bench, but part of the buildings remained till quite recently, approached through Angel Place. When this drawing was made the description by Dickens would still more or less apply:—"It was an oblong pile of barrack buildings, partitioned into squalid houses standing back to back—environed by a narrow paved yard, hemmed in by high walls duly spiked at top."—P. N.



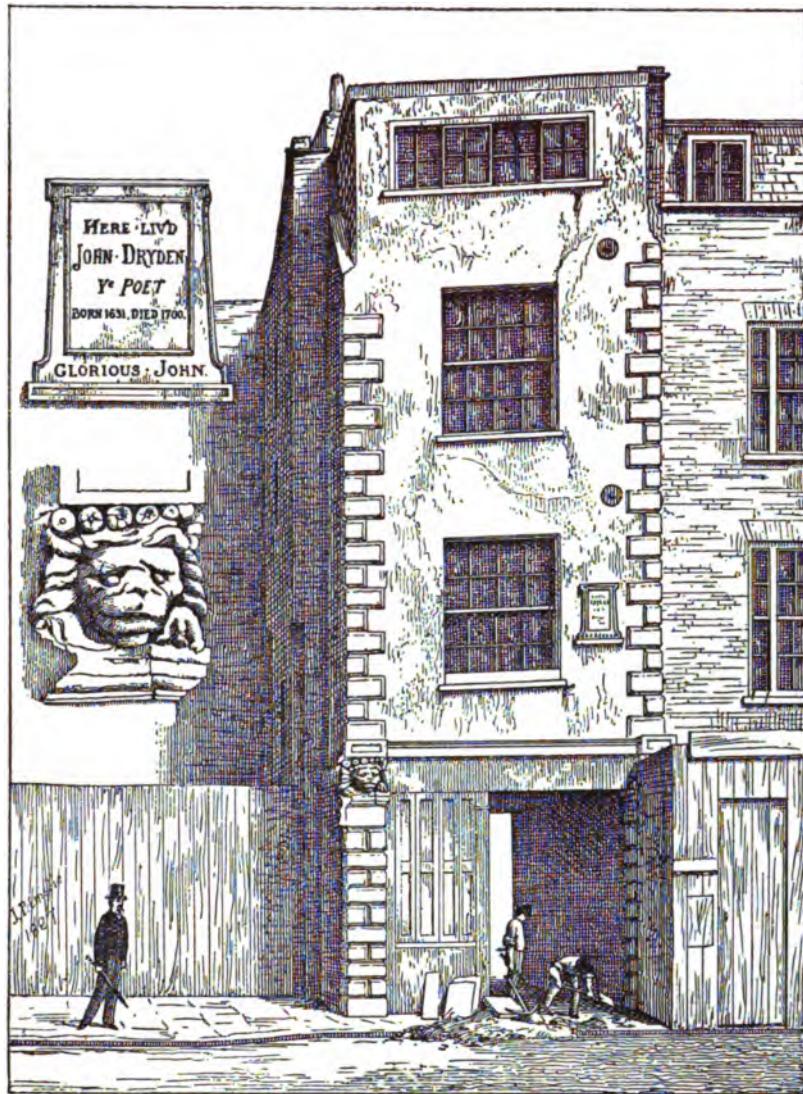
IV.—MARSHALSEA PRISON.

V.

NO. 16, FETTER LANE (JOHN DRYDEN'S HOUSE).

THIS house was pulled down in 1887. Its top window showed the old style of domestic architecture, while its lower windows, in spite of their modern form and sashes, suggested, by their proportion, old ones modernized. The house (a small one, adjoining Flower de Luce Court) was of brick, but had been coated over with plaster. The massive stone piers at its base, and the stone quoins at its side, gave it a somewhat classic appearance which, in its turn, was contradicted by the grotesque carvings of lions' heads surmounted by flowers which were placed between the ground and first floors. A tablet, old, though newer than the house, recorded the tradition of Dryden's residence there. This tablet and one of the sculptured lions' heads are shown on an enlarged scale by the side of the view. Within the house was an old staircase with carved banisters: this was purchased, previous to the demolition of the house, by Mr. Elliot Stock, the publisher.—J. P. E.

The tradition that John Dryden lived in this house does not seem to be confirmed, so far as I am aware, by any contemporary record. Mr. Leslie Stephen, however, in the "Dictionary of National Biography," accepts it. Peter Cunningham, in his Notes on Johnson's "Lives of the Poets," traces Dryden to a house in the Parish of St. Bride Fleet, near Salisbury Court, from 1673 to 1682. He was afterwards in Long Acre, and finally at No. 43, Gerard Street, Soho. At No. 17, Fetter Lane, lived Mrs. Brownrigg, the notorious criminal.—P. N.



V.—NO. 16, FETTER LANE.

B

VI.

SAVOY BUILDINGS.

ON the right, a group of modern stucco-fronted houses does not very greatly jar upon the generally old-fashioned aspect of this view. At the end of the view is the "Occidental" Tavern, and, beyond it, an old house with a narrow archway beneath it, which archway opens into the Strand. From here the pavement will be seen leading steeply down to the foreground of the view, a characteristic example of one of the many courts built on the land which slopes from the Strand to the River Thames.—J. P. E.

Until 1883, Savoy Buildings, Strand, went by the name of Fountain Court, from an old tavern, "The Fountain," now replaced by Simpson's, which had stood at the entrance and been the headquarters of the Fountain Club, a political association opposed to Sir Robert Walpole. William Blake, painter and poet, lived at No. 3, Fountain Court, from 1820 till his death in 1827. The projecting house on the east side (or to spectator's right) was the "Coal Hole" Tavern, previously the "Unicorn," where early in this century the Wolf Club used to meet, of which Edmund Kean was a leading member. It was afterwards, during many years, noted for its late suppers and singing, being managed in a similar way to the Cider Cellars, Maiden Lane, and ceasing to attract at about the same period. Finally it became the "Occidental" Tavern, and it fell down in 1887, while preparations were being made for a new theatre to be built on the site.—P. N.



VI.—SAVOY BUILDINGS.

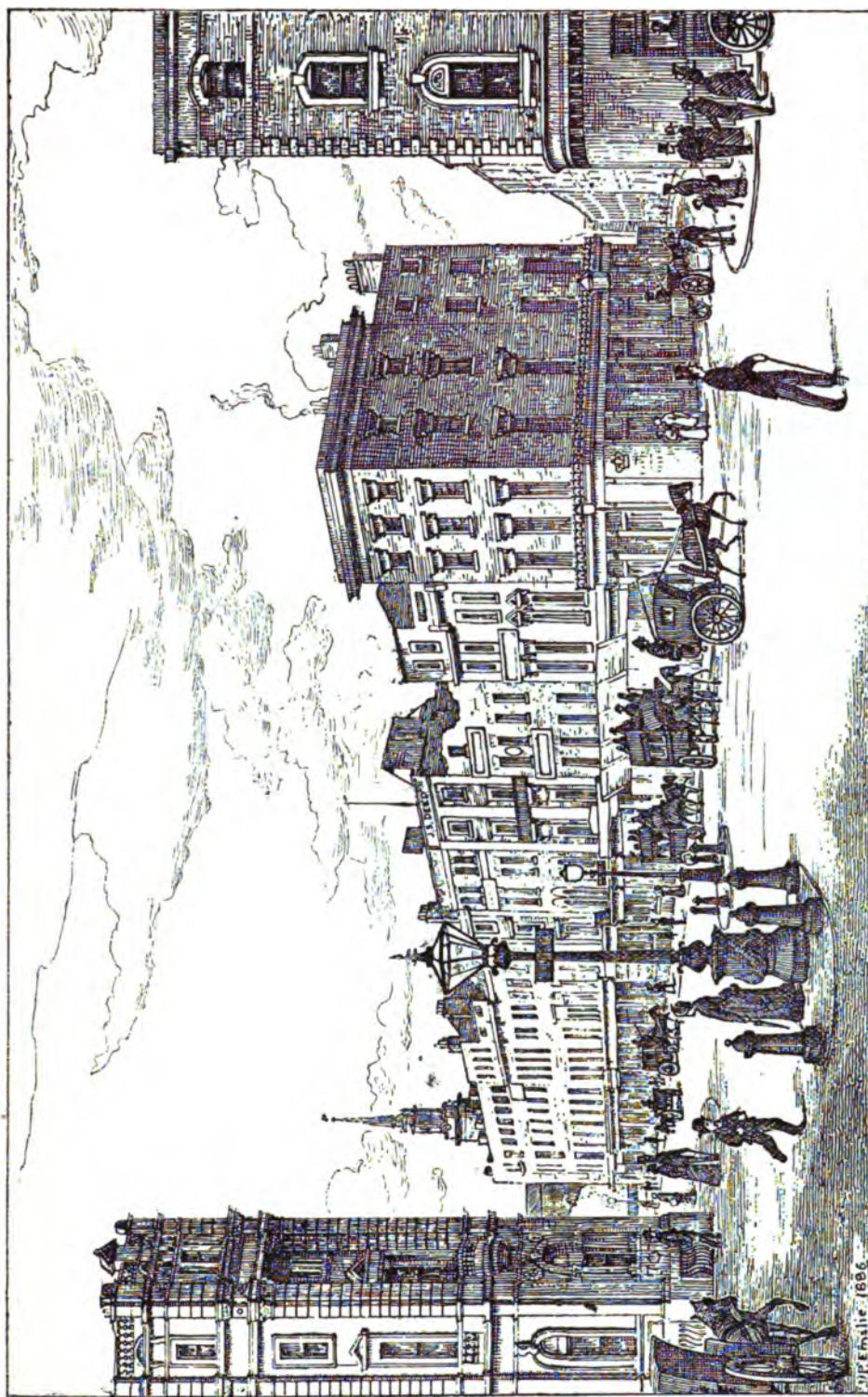
## VII.

### HIGH STREET, ST. GILES'S.

### CORNER OF OXFORD STREET AND CROWN STREET.

SITE of the northern end of Charing Cross Road. On the left is Bank Chambers, a classical structure still existing at the corner of New Oxford Street and High Street, St. Giles's. The latter street occupies the greater part of the view. At its further end is seen part of the Church and railings of Churchyard of St. Giles-in-the-Fields : the steeple of the Church is seen rising above the houses. On the right of the view is Crown Street, one side of which still remains, and forms the western side of the present Charing Cross Road. At the street corner stood "The Crown" Inn : it is shown in the view. It and several of its neighbours were demolished to make room for Charing Cross Road.—J. P. E.

St. Giles's-in-the-Fields was originally a village, which sprang up about the Hospital for Lepers, founded by Matilda, Queen of Henry I. Later it was spoken of as a town ; thus in 1605 an Act was passed for paving Drury Lane and the *Town of St. Giles*. In the middle of High Street stood, till 1656, St. Giles's Pound, with a cage adjoining ; it was afterwards moved to the space where the High Street, Tottenham Court Road, and Oxford Street meet.—P. N.



VII.—HIGH STREET, ST. GILES'S.

107. - 1696.

## VIII.

### CASTLE STREET AND HEMMINGS ROW.

NEARLY the whole of the eastern side of this street was pulled down in 1886 to make room for the present Charing Cross Road. It was a narrow street of ordinary-looking brown-brick houses, with the exception of the fourth house from the corner on the right of view, whose front made some attempt at architectural appearance. In the middle of the street a sudden rectangular turn prevented one at any time seeing the whole length of the street. This turn appears at the end of the view. The projecting house at the corner was occupied by Messrs. Nathan, the fancy costumiers. From this house Bear Street led into Leicester Square, and opposite to it, a little beyond the corner house near which stands a cart, was the entrance to Cranbourn Alley. On the right, in the foreground, is the corner of Hemmings Row, a thoroughfare which led into Trafalgar Square.—J. P. E.

In Castle Street was Bishop Tenison's Library, founded in 1684. This house was pulled down in 1861 to make room for an extension of the National Gallery. In this street lived Sir Robert Strange between 1765 and 1774, and the first London residence of Benjamin West was also here. Liston, the famous comedian, was in his early days an usher at a day-school in Castle Street.

Hemmings (or Hemings) Row was named after John Hemmings, apothecary, of St. Martin's Lane, which it joined on the east side. Upon an old wooden house was formerly the name of the street and the date, 1680. Hemmings Row has been swept away, the last house being destroyed in 1889.—P. N.



VIII.—CASTLE STREET AND HEMMINGS ROW.

## IX.

### ST. MARTIN'S PLACE.

SITE of the southern end of Charing Cross Road. On the left is the Nelson Column and (in shadow) the eastern end of the National Gallery. On the right is Parr's Bank, a building still in existence, the front of which, facing the spectator, is in St. Martin's Lane. Beyond this building is Hemmings Row, at whose far end a projecting house marks the corner of Castle Street, a street depicted in an accompanying view (No. VIII). Opposite to this house the building in the shade is St. Martin's Workhouse. It and the block of buildings in the centre have all disappeared, and their site is occupied by the roadway of Charing Cross Road. Somewhat in their rear now stands the National Portrait Gallery. In the largest house in the central group of buildings will be noticed a three-light window surmounted by a pediment. In the room which was lighted by this window the meetings of the Anthropological Institute were held until the demolition of the house, and the Institute's Museum was in the second floor of this house.—J. P. E.



IX.—ST. MARTIN'S PLACE.

C

X.

BRITISH HOTEL, COCKSPUR STREET.

A RED-BRICK building, with cornices, columns, and porticoes of wood, painted 'stone-colour.' It was one of the buildings erected by the Brothers Adam, the architects of the district known as "The Adelphi." Over the doors are two semicircular recesses with pedestals therein: on these pedestals formerly stood urns, and the friezes above them were adorned with carvings of oxen's skulls with festoons of flowers between them. The urns and carvings on the friezes had disappeared before my sketch was taken; they are, however, figured in Messrs. Adam's "The Works in Architecture of Robert and James Adam."—J. P. E.

This had been the British Coffee House, which existed as early as 1722. In 1759 it was kept by a sister of Bishop Douglas, remembered for his works against Lauder; her successor being Mrs. Anderson, described by Mackenzie as "a woman of uncommon talents and the most agreeable conversation." The house was much frequented by Scotchmen, and hither came Johnson and Boswell. Lord Campbell belonged to a Club of Scotchmen, called the Beeswing, which met here. Rebuilt from the design of Robert Adam in 1870, it was pulled down in 1886-87, Stanford's establishment, 26 and 27, Cockspur Street, being on the site.—P. N.



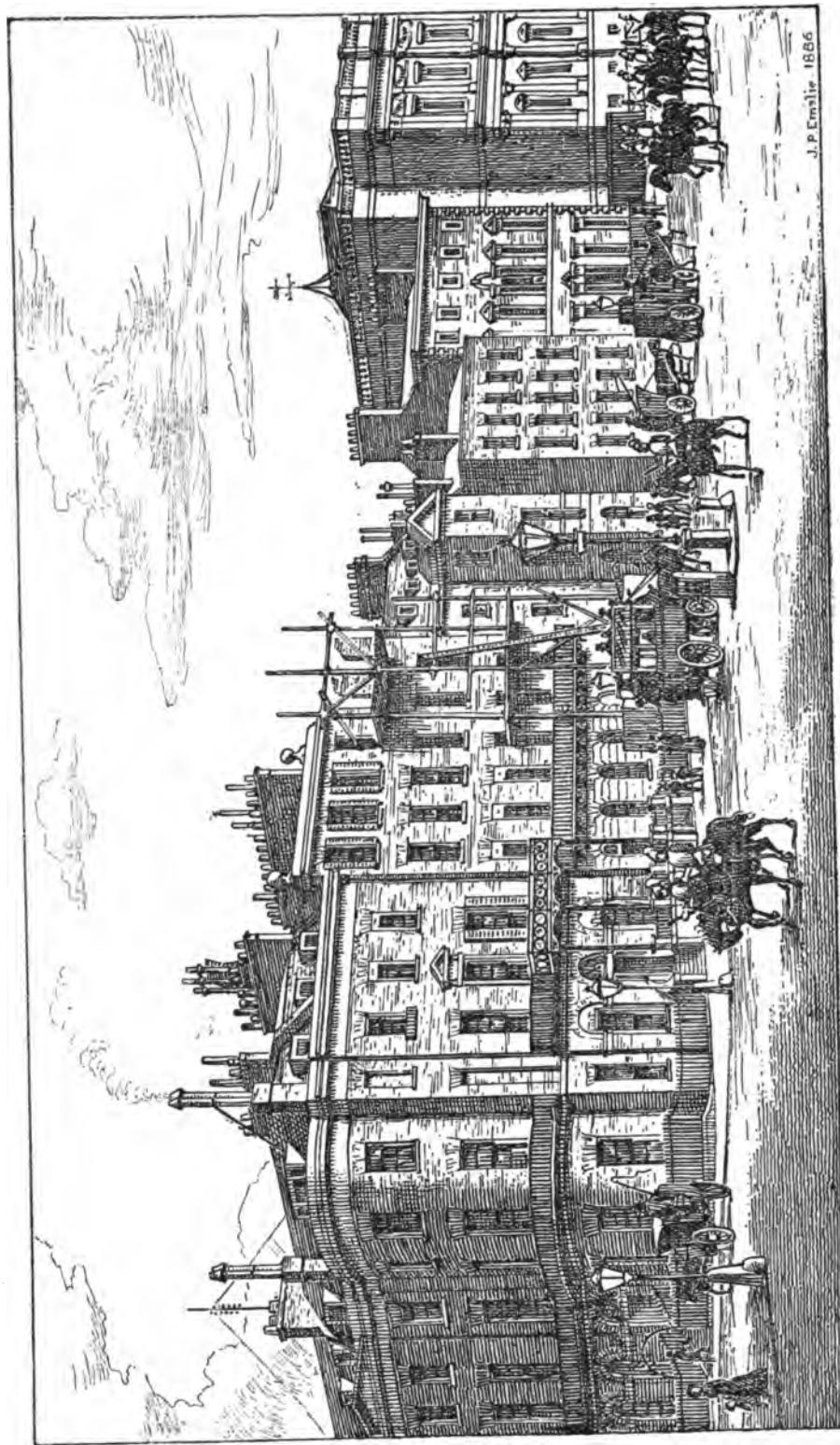
X.—BRITISH HOTEL, COCKSPUR STREET.

XI.

WHITEHALL.

ON the right is part of the Banqueting Hall, a building which is now used as the Museum of the United Service Institution ; on the left is part of the thoroughfare known as Whitehall Place, the building at the corner of which was lately standing, though all the houses between it and the Banqueting Hall have been pulled down, and the narrow thoroughfare on this side of the Banqueting Hall (known as Whitehall Yard) has been widened into the present Horse Guards Avenue. On the right, and near the Banqueting Hall, is Carrington House, the residence of Lord Carrington ; a house of exterior compact square form, but having within it many rambling passages and rooms of very varied size, some of which had highly ornamental plaster ceilings. The houses between it and Whitehall Place were latterly occupied as offices of various societies and companies.—J. P. E.

Since this drawing was made considerable changes have taken place in this historic neighbourhood. Carrington House was built in the earlier part of the eighteenth century, and was not without architectural pretensions. Some of its handsome woodwork is now in the South Kensington Museum. Of Inigo Jones's famous Banqueting Hall it is unnecessary to say anything except that it ceased in 1891 to be a Chapel Royal, and an addition having been made to it on the south side, it has become the home of the Royal United Service Institution, which for over half a century had been lodged in what remained of Sir John Vanbrugh's house, which Swift slightly alludes to as "a thing resembling a goose pye." This building was finally cleared away in the Autumn of 1898.—P. N.



XI.—WHITEHALL.

## XII.

### HAND COURT, HOLBORN.

ONE of the many courts of London which have a fame from some local association, their own neighbourhood, or business importance. This particular one, on account of its leading from Bedford Row into Holborn, and, by its opposite neighbour, Great Turnstile, into Lincoln's Inn Fields; and, being also of some importance to the pedestrian as a 'short cut' to and from more distant quarters of the town, is a much-used thoroughfare. At the Holborn end is the "Hand-in-Hand" Inn, whose garden wall is seen in the foreground. Beyond this is the "Feathers" Tavern, an old house (now rebuilt) with a bar whose front had as much window as it was possible to pierce the wall with—a kind of bar of which some specimens may still be seen in some of the old City taverns.—J. P. E.

Strype, writing in 1720, describes this place as follows:—"Hand Alley, seated almost against Great Turnstile Alley, not long built; the houses are good and well inhabited, with a freestone pavement and a passage into the fields, over against Bedford Row." On the east side till 1886 stood three taverns. The "Hand-in-Hand" is still at the entrance facing Holborn, with a low annexe behind, which is shown in our illustration. Next was a famous old-fashioned chop-house—the "Feathers"—here shown in a ruinous state, after a fire; it did not long survive. Charles Lamb had been a customer at the time that he was living in Little Queen Street. Several shops now occupy its site. Beyond this, again, was the "Wheatsheaf," which also has been 'improved' away.—P. N.



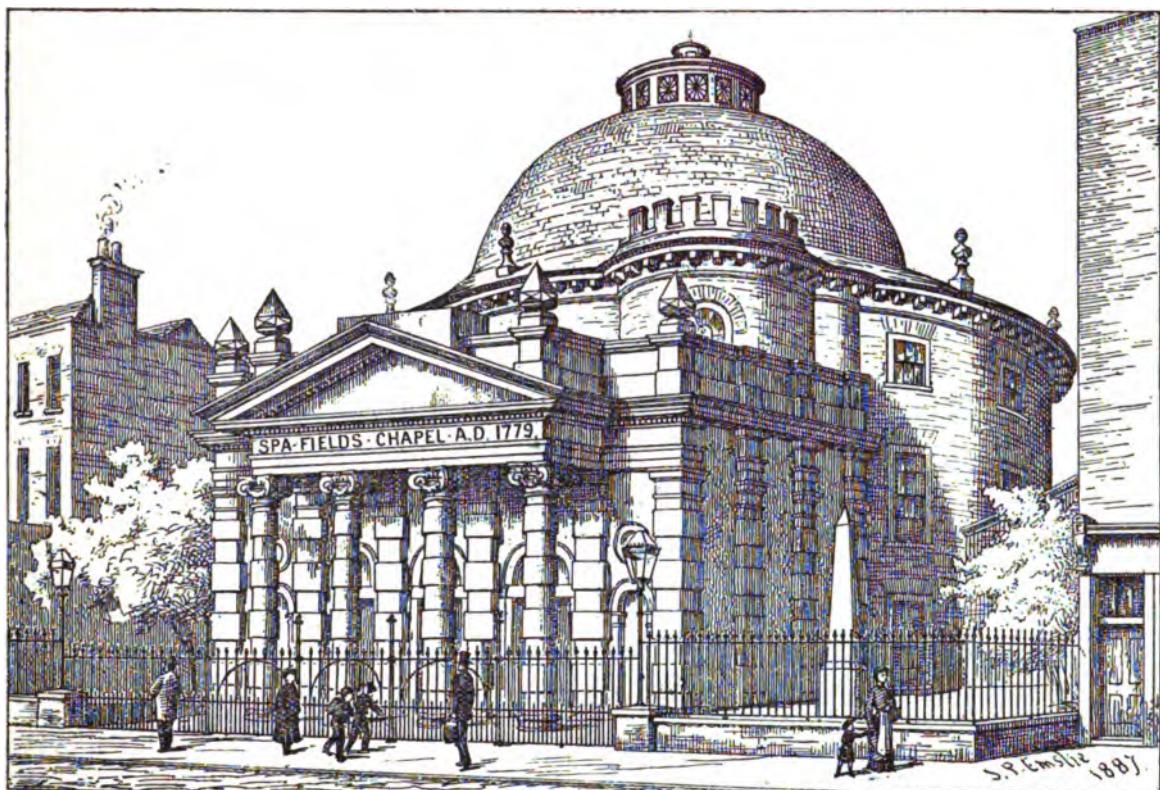
XII.—HAND COURT, HOLBORN.

### XIII.

#### SPA FIELDS CHAPEL.

THIS building, which was erected by Selina, Countess of Huntingdon, was a brown-brick structure of (roughly speaking) circular plan, with a slate dome topped by a lantern. It was entered from Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell, by a small and poorly designed classic portico. This portico was removed some years ago, and the more pretentious stone structure shown in the view was then erected. The plain brown-brick house on the left of the view is the one in which the Countess of Huntingdon died. The obelisk on the right was erected in 1873 as a memorial to her. At the back of the building was Spa Fields Burial Ground. The pestilential air arising from it was the cause of several deaths in the neighbourhood during the time of the cholera of 1848. The building was pulled down in 1887, and the Church of the Redeemer (Anglican) now occupies the site.—J. P. E.

This was originally the Pantheon, a place of amusement, opened in 1770, which had been built on the site of a wayside inn called the "Ducking Pond House," with a pond at the rear used for the sport of duck-hunting. The Pantheon proved a failure; the proprietor became bankrupt in 1774, and two years afterwards it had certainly ceased to be used for its original purpose. Opened as Northampton Chapel in 1777, the pond being drained and the garden turned into a burial-ground, it was soon afterwards bought by the Countess of Huntingdon, and in 1779 was reopened as the Spa Fields Chapel, a place of worship in her connection. The tavern belonging to the Pantheon, on the east side of the Rotunda, was for years her residence, and there she died in 1791; it is partly shown in our illustration.—P. N.



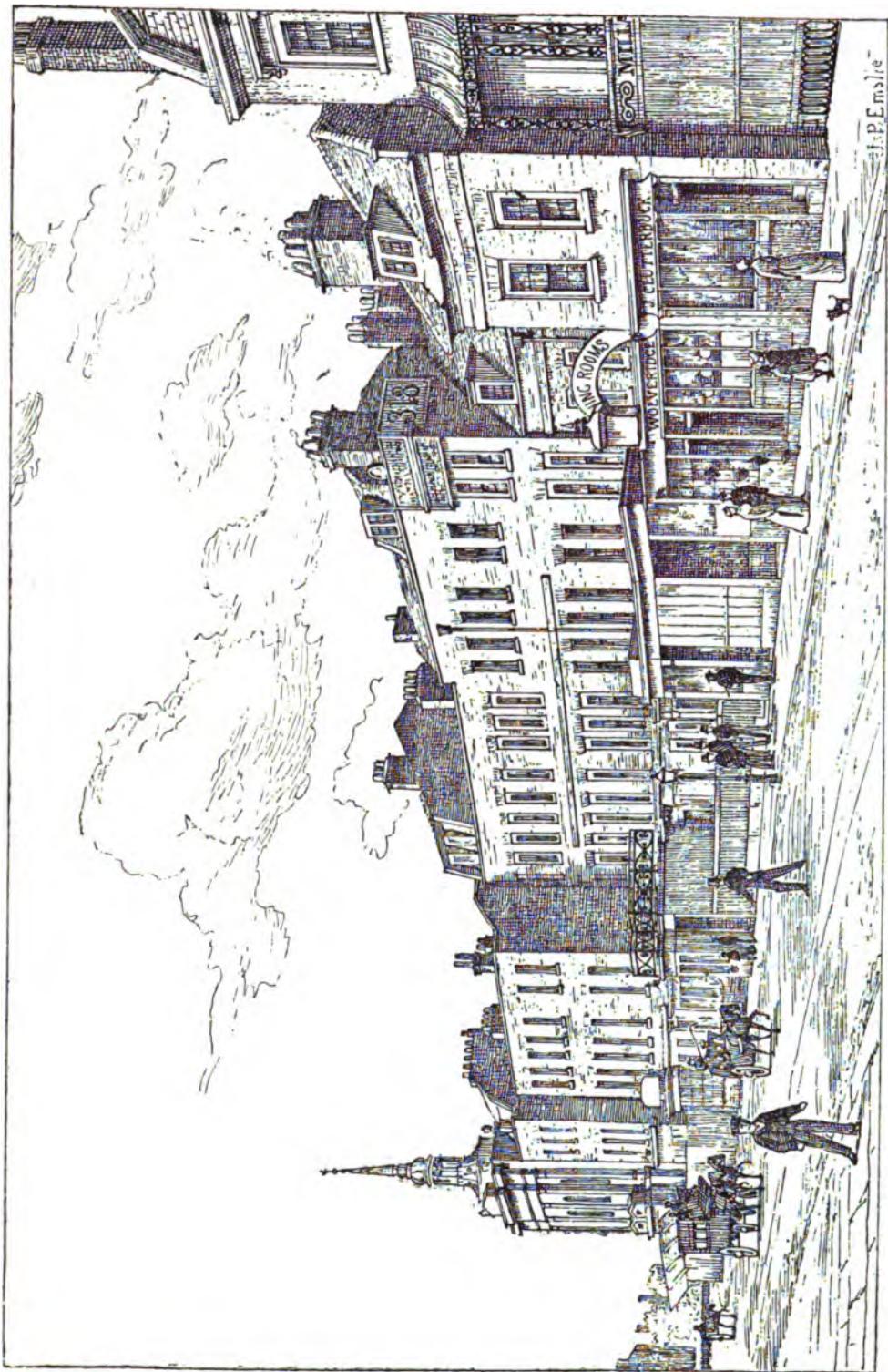
XIII.—SPA FIELDS CHAPEL.

D

XIV.

UPPER STREET, ISLINGTON (i).

A VIEW looking north from the south end of the street, near Islington Green. A group of old red-brick dwelling-houses of somewhat pretentious appearance, with shops on the site of their front gardens. Near the centre of this group now stands Islington Dissenting Chapel. In the foreground two smaller but more picturesque houses, with tall, red-tiled gable roofs and dormer windows, one of these houses having a bold wooden cornice. In the distance the steeple of the parish church of St. Mary, Islington, is seen above the houses, and part of the churchyard railings is seen beyond. The church stands on the site of the old parish church, pulled down in 1751.



XIV.—UPPER STREET, ISLINGTON (i).

## XV.

### UPPER STREET, ISLINGTON (ii).

A view north of the preceding one, and looking towards Highbury. On the right is the corner of Cross Street, and a group of old brick houses with classic doorways of varied design, the pavement in front of them raised some three or four feet above the level of the road—a 'terrace,' of which other examples still exist in London, and which were more frequently to be met with before the great increase of traffic, which the last fifty years have seen in our main thoroughfares, necessitated one level for roadway and pavement. Beyond this group is seen the spire of Unity Dissenting Chapel; beyond that, the portico of Islington Vestry Hall: the Chapel and Vestry Hall are still standing. On the left is the corner of Wellington Street; the large old house at its corner is Myddelton Hall, a place of lectures and entertainments. Beyond it, old houses, partly modernized, and of varied size, stretch away to the distance. In the centre of these, and opposite the Chapel, is a little two-storied house with a gabled front—a bit of old Islington village; on its front is an inscription, J. B., and date, 1652. This house is shown on an enlarged scale above the view.—J. P. E.

Upper Street has formed an important part of "merry Islington"—once a suburban town or village, famous for its dairies, ducking-ponds, and houses of entertainment. On the west side of Upper Street there stood till about 1827 a picturesque inn called the "Pied Bull," which may have been an abode of Sir Walter Raleigh; here, doubtless, Sir John Miller resided in the time of James I. At the corner of Cross Street stands the "Old Parr's Head," where John Henderson made his first essay as an actor, but the present structure is certainly more modern.—P. N.



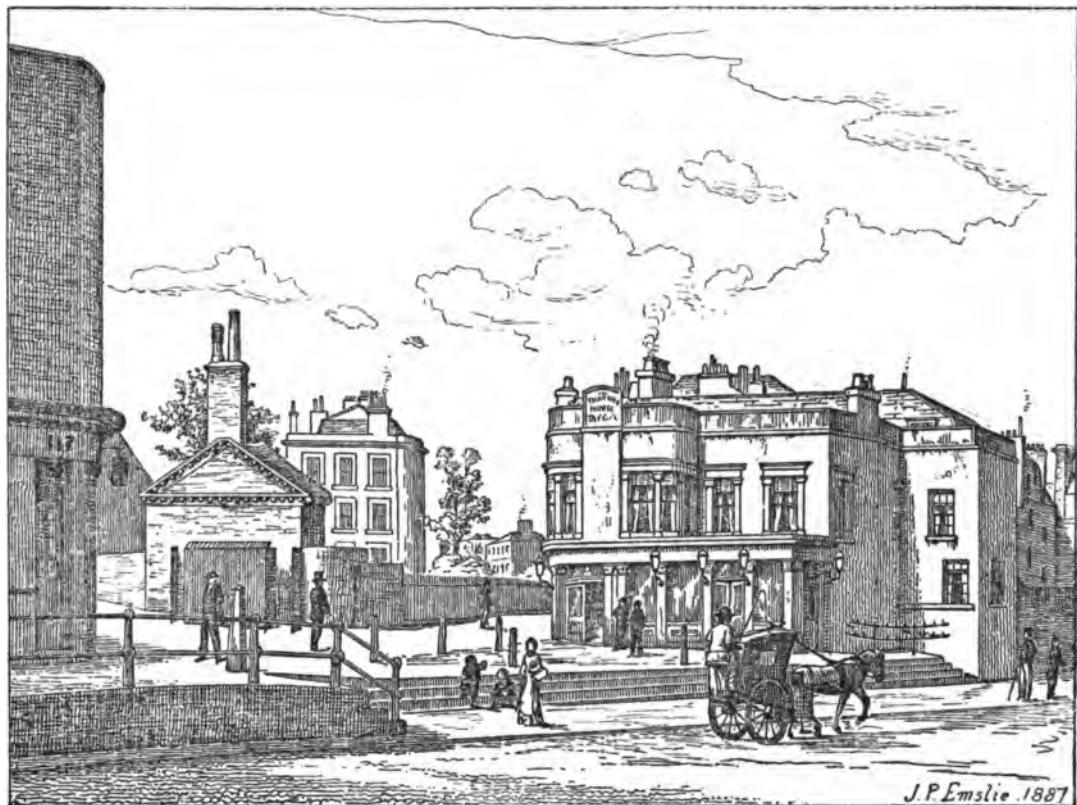
XV.—UPPER STREET, ISLINGTON (ii).

## XVI.

### "THATCHED HOUSE" TAVERN, ISLINGTON.

A view in the Essex Road, formerly called the Lower Road, in contradistinction to Upper Street, from which it branches at Islington Green, extending thence to Balls Pond Road. The pavement here shown is another example of the 'terrace.' The "Thatched House" Tavern had, in the early days of this century, a tea-garden attached to it, and was a semi-rural, semi-suburban resort, being prettily situated on the bank of the New River, whose railings are seen in the centre of the view, and, between them and the tavern, the footway which leads by the river's side to Canonbury. Beyond the railings, in the extreme distance, are seen some of the moderately old houses which are beside this footway, which still affords a pleasant walk by the river's side. The tavern, at the time this drawing was made, had lost much of its picturesqueness, by the erection of a very modern public-house shop front, while the thatched roof, which its name would suggest that it once had, had been replaced by a slate one, and though this was a gable roof, yet even this element of the picturesque was half hidden by the brewers' boards.—J. P. E.

In the part of Essex Road near Islington Green some of the houses were formerly quite ancient, but in 1735 it was only built over to a point a little beyond Cross Street. The modest hostelry here shown was No. 119, on the north side. It has been replaced by a lofty and pretentious structure of red brick, bearing the date 1886.—P. N.



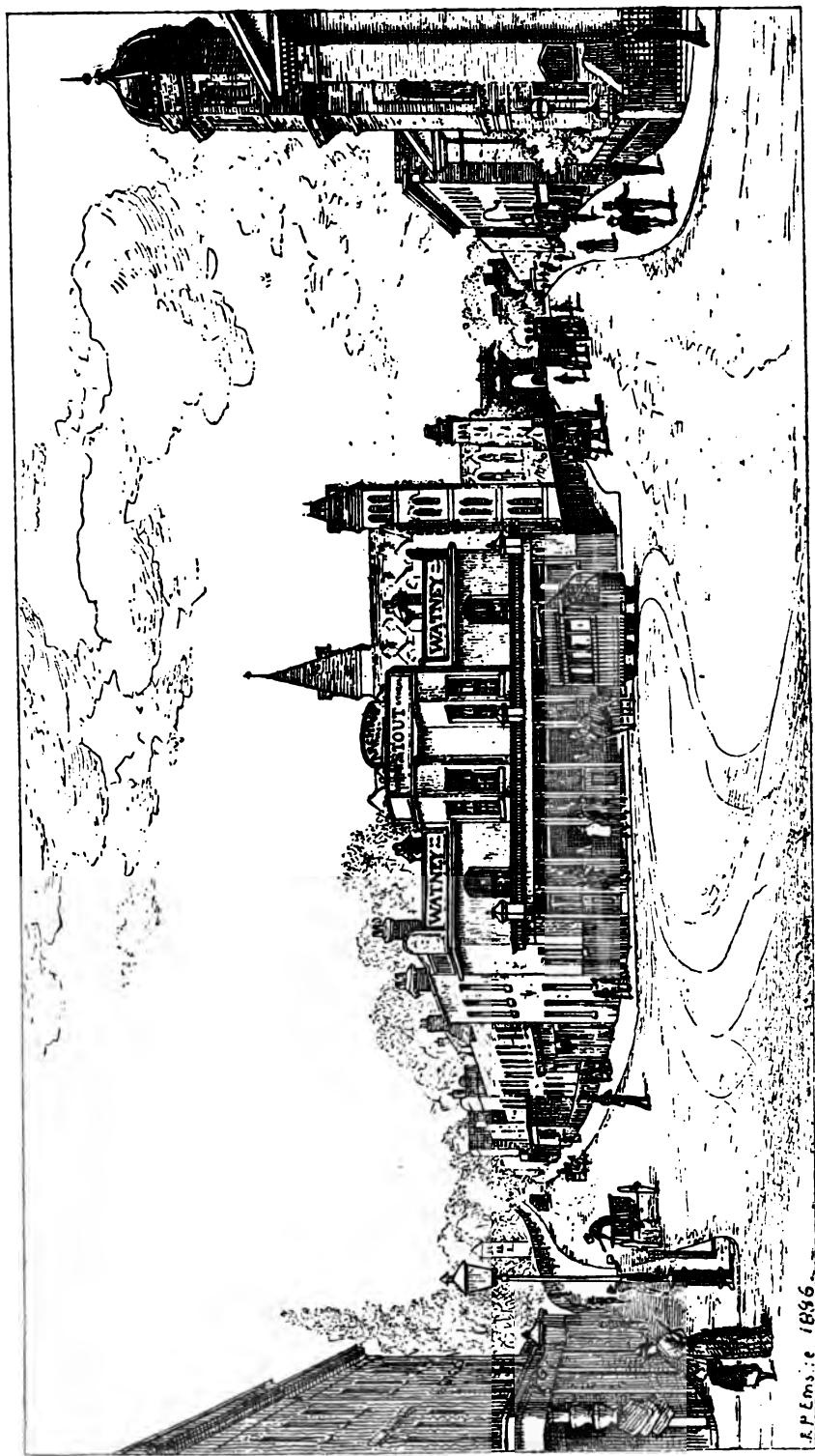
XVI.—“THATCHED HOUSE” TAVERN, ISLINGTON.

## XVII.

### “ARCHWAY” TAVERN, HIGHGATE.

A CELEBRATED omnibus (and, in later years, tramcar) terminus. An old inn, marred by a modern public-house front. Behind it, slightly to the right, is seen Holborn Union Infirmary, and, beyond that, Highgate Archway, built across the loop road which goes round the hill and, about a mile further on, joins the former main road, which goes over Highgate Hill. The latter road is seen on the left, and about half-way up the part shown in the view was a stone known as Whittington’s Stone, from a tradition that the famous Dick Whittington sat thereon at the time that he heard the bells of Bow Church prophesying his future greatness.—J. P. E.

At the foot of Highgate Hill, in the angle formed by the road which surmounts it and that known as the Archway Road, stands the “Archway” Tavern, well known as a starting-place for omnibuses, etc., rebuilt soon after this drawing was made, in 1886. The Archway Road was constructed in 1810-13, to avoid the steep acclivity of Highgate Hill. It was to have had a tunnel 765 feet long, and the works were begun, but in those days the art of tunnelling was imperfectly understood, and the attempt failed. A wide open cutting was therefore substituted, the picturesque archway which appears in the middle distance being thrown over it, with the object of continuing Hornsey Lane. This archway is now in course of demolition. A print of the “Archway” Tavern in 1825 shows the house as yet unmodernized, and with quite rural surroundings. To the right is a turnpike.—P. N.



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